

**GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
THIRD MEETING SUMMARY
September 17, 2001**

**Prepared by:
Department of Natural Resources
Office of Conservation
Ground Water Management Staff
Mr. Tony Duplechin (225) 342-5528
Mr. Timothy J. Seiler (225) 219-5103**

SUMMARY

Update on Request for Proposals

Mr. Anthony Duplechin, Chief of Staff for the Ground Water Management Commission, stated that the Request for Proposal (RFP) was advertised on September 7 and again on September 11, 2001. A pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for tomorrow (September 18, 2001) and that the staff has been working with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Contracts and Grants Division to get the RFP out and to set up a time line for the different stages in selection of a contractor.

Mr. Duplechin stated that a review committee has been selected and consists of Mr. Duplechin; Mr. Jim Marchand, a lawyer with the Louisiana House of Representatives; Mr. Bo Bolourchi and Dale Givens, representatives from the Ground Water Management Commission (Commission); and Mr. Charlie Demas, a representative from the Ground Water Management Advisory Task Force (Task Force).

Commissioner Asprodites, Commissioner of the Office of Conservation, asked questions relating to the time frame of receiving the proposals and selecting a contractor. Mr. Duplechin stated that the bids are due on October 8, 2001 and that a contractor should be selected by November 2, 2001.

Commissioner Gautreaux, with the Governors Office, inquired about the procedures for the pre-bid meeting. Mr. Duplechin stated that people interested in bidding on this contract will ask questions of both the Ground Water Management Commission Staff as to the technical approaches and results expected in the contract. The bidders may also ask questions of the Contracts and Grants Division staff pertaining to the technicalities of working with the State (i.e. insurance requirements, reporting requirements, etc.).

Additional questions were asked regarding whether or not advertisements were made nationally and if any proposals will be accepted after tomorrows meeting? Mr. Duplechin stated that the advertisement was made nationally and that proposals would be accepted after tomorrow and that tomorrows meeting was not a mandatory meeting.

Update on Emergency Rules

Mr. Duplechin stated that emergency rules were hand carried to the Office of the State Register on September 10, 2001 and that it will be published in the September 20, issue of the state Register. Commissioner Gautreaux inquired about making changes if something does not seem to be working could the rules be modified. Mr. Duplechin stated that the life of an emergency order is 120 days and that it can be revised. When the order expires the Commission might have to another emergency order that would be resubmitted to the Office of the State Register.

Comments on the 60-Day Waiver

Mr. Duplechin read into the record the well types recommended for the 60-day waiver.

Commissioner Givens, Secretary Department of Environmental Quality, would like to add monitoring wells to recovery wells because monitoring wells can be converted to recovery wells. He also had a question regarding what happens to a rig supply well whose ownership has changed to the property owner. Mr. Duplechin said that the well would then become a domestic well.

Commissioner Roussel, Assistant Secretary Wildlife and Fisheries, had questions regarding the capacity of de-watering and rig supply wells in addition to concerns regarding the data as being real numbers and just voluntary numbers. Commissioner Bolourchi, with the Department of Transportation and Development, stated that the wells are required to register and that the pumping rates vary with the aquifer.

Commissioner Cardwell, from the Capital Ground Water Conservation District, had questions regarding the size and capacity of de-watering wells. A discussion followed regarding de-watering wells and what they are used for. Commissioner Roussel stated he was uncomfortable with exempting these classes of wells because of the large amounts of water they produce. The Commission decided to remove de-watering wells from the list.

Vote on 60-Day Waiver for additional Wells

Voice vote was taken on 60-day waiver excluding the de-watering wells. All were in favor.

Mr. Duplechin also requested that the staff be given a case-by-case decision making authority for just cause reasons. The Commission agreed.

Comments form the Advisory Task Force

Mr. Wascom, for the Citizens for a Clean Environment, requested clarification on the public comment period to the draft rules. Commissioner Gautreaux stated that a Notice of Intent would be filed and the public will be able to respond in person or in writing to the draft rules.

New Business

Commissioner Roussel had a question about minutes to the Commission meetings. Ms. Gautreaux stated that the transcripts and summaries would be prepared.

Set next meeting time. October 22, 2001 at 1330.